

XXXVI.—*On a Collection of Birds recently made by Lieutenant Robert Wardlaw Ramsay, F.Z.S., in the Andaman Islands.* By ARTHUR, Viscount WALDEN, P.Z.S., F.R.S.

(Plates XI., XII., XIII.)

A YOUNG member of the B. O. U., Lieutenant R. W. Ramsay, H.M. 67th Regt., having, in the middle of December 1872, been sent on duty to Port Blair, in the Andaman Islands, immediately after arrival, availed himself with great energy of his opportunities, and, being an excellent shot as well as a keen naturalist, collected in a couple of months 460 specimens of birds, representing 62 species. These he has been good enough to forward to me for identification; and as many of them are of considerable interest and are accompanied by useful notes, I venture to offer to the readers of 'The Ibis' the following list of them, together with some observations on the more important species.

Mr. Blyth and the late Colonel Tytler are the principal authors who, until quite lately, had investigated the ornithology of the Andamans. But in February last, Mr. V. Ball* followed up two former and less complete papers on that subject by publishing an admirable list of the birds known to occur in the Andamans and Nicobars, every species hitherto noted as inhabitants of these two insular groups being included. This list makes the total number recorded amount to 133; from which 24 must be deducted as being species as yet only known to inhabit the Nicobars, while 4 more are titles which doubtfully belong to Andaman species. To these 105 species of Andaman birds must be added some 18 species sent to Mr. Hume† after Mr. Ball's paper was in print, thus raising the total to 113, less 5, which are not indigenous, having been introduced by Colonel Tytler. Mr. Ramsay obtained two species, new to the Andaman fauna, which when added make the complete numbers of known Andaman birds at this date reach to about 110 species.

The avifauna of the Andamans, while containing some peculiar species, appears to resemble in character that of the

* Str. Feath. i. p. 51.

† *Op. cit.* p. 304.

highlands of India south of the Himalayas and west of the Brahmapootra, rather than that of the Indo-Malayan or Indo-Chinese countries.

1. *PALÆORNIS EUPATRIUS* (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 140. no. 7, ex Briss; Finsch, Papag. ii. p. 11. no. 89.

Psittaca ginginiana, Briss. Orn. iv. p. 343, ex "Ginginiano regno."

Palæornis alexandri, auct., nec Linn.

Palæornis magnirostris, Ball, J. A. S. B. xli. p. 278, "Andamans" (1872).

"S. Andaman, ♀, iris straw-colour, a yellow rim round each eye."

Two females, do not differ from Ceylon, Indian, and Burmese examples of that sex. Bill not so large as in Ceylon and Candeish individuals.

2. *PALÆORNIS MELANORHYNCHUS*, Wagler, Monogr. p. 511. no. 4 (1832); Finsch, Papag. ii. p. 70. no. 98, ♀ adult.

Palæornis nigrirostris, Hodgs. Gray's Zool. Misc. p. 85, "Nipaul" (1844), ♀ juv.

Palæornis derbyanus, Fraser, P. Z. S. 1850, p. 245, pl. 25, ex patr. incog. ♀ adult.

Palæornis javanicus (Osbeck), Jerd. B. of Ind. i. p. 262. no. 152, nec Osbeck; Ball. J. A. S. B. xli. p. 279. no. 14, ♂.

Palæornis lathamii, Finsch, tom. cit. p. 66. no. 97, ♂ adult (1868).

Six examples in perfect plumage. Two with the maxilla red, noted as males; two with both mandibles black, as females. I agree with Dr. O. Finsch in considering *P. alexandri*, Linn., = *P. javanicus*, Osbeck, known with certainty as an inhabitant of Java and Borneo only, totally distinct from the Indian, Burmese, Cambodjan, and Andaman Parrot; but I cannot concur in his opinion that the black-billed birds belong to a species different from those with a red maxilla. These Andaman examples clearly belong to one species, the totally black bill being the chief distinguishing characteristic of the female.

3. *PALÆORNIS ERYTHROGENYS*, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1846, p. 23, "Nicobars."

Palæornis nicobaricus, Gould, Birds of Asia, pt. ix. pl. (1857).

Palæornis affinis, Tytler, Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 320. no. 27, ♂ juv. vel ♀, "Andamans."

"S. Andaman: ♂, feet and legs bright olive-green."

Three males and seven females are in the collection. Males have the maxilla red and mandibula black; in the females both mandibles are black, and the moustache is deep rich green and not black.

4. *LORICULUS VERNALIS* (Sparrm.), Mus. Carls. pl. 29 (1787).

"S. Andaman: ♂, ♀, iris straw-yellow."

Four examples, in no respect differing from Malabar and Burmese individuals.

5. *SPILORNIS RUTHERFORDI*, Swinhoe, Ibis, 1870, p. 85, "Hainan."

Spilornis davisoni, Hume, Str. Feath. i. p. 307, "Andamans" (1873).

Hæmatornis cheela (Latham), Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 314, no. 1, "Andamans."

"S. Andaman: ♀, Dec. 27."

A single individual in perfect (?) plumage and almost identical, save in its dimensions, with an example of *S. cheela*, ♂, from Mussoorie, the only distinction being that the transverse striations on the throat and upper breast are not so dark nor as bold in the Andaman bird, and the chin and cheeks are concolorous with the throat and breast, and not dark brown.

Wing 15 inches; tail 10; tarsus 3.37; middle toe, without nail, 1.50; bill from nostril in a straight line 1, from gape to end of mandible 1.67.

It may be here added that *S. spilogaster*, Blyth (J. A. S. B. 1852, p. 351), was described from Ceylon examples. It closely resembles Javan *S. bacha*; and I have never seen it from any part of continental India. The peninsular Indian bird, if different from the northern form, *S. cheela*, must take another title, the oldest applicable being *albidus*, Cuv., Temm. (1824).

My examples from different parts of India, north and south, do not differ in plumage, unless the transverse striations of the pectoral plumage form a constant feature peculiar to the northern bird. This character I have found only in examples from the north and in those which inhabit the Indo-Chinese countries.

6. *SPILORNIS ELGINI* (Tytler), J. A. S. B. 1863, p. 87, "Andamans;" Blyth, Ibis, 1863, p. 118.

Spilornis spilogaster, pt. Blyth, Ibis, 1866, p. 243.

Hæmatornis elgini, Tytler: Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 314, no. 2.

"S. Andaman: ♀, Jan. 15th; total length in the flesh 22 inches."

A perfectly distinct species, of a deep rich brown. Chin and cheeks almost black. Upper breast and throat almost uniform; three or four of the feathers only with one, two, or three white spots irregularly placed. Lower breast-feathers with three pairs of pure white almost round spots placed at regular intervals on each side of the shaft. Ventral plumage and thigh-coverts with four pairs of similar spots of a smaller size. Under tail-coverts traversed with three or four white bars almost, but not quite, running through, except the terminal white band, which is much narrower. Head and crest as in *S. cheela* and *S. bacha*, the black crest-plumes being narrowly fringed with bright ferruginous brown. Interscapular region and back uniform brown. Most of the scapulars with two small irregularly shaped white terminal dots. Secondaries narrowly and partially fringed with albescent. Upper tail-coverts somewhat irregularly spotted with white. Shoulder-coverts spotted as in *S. bacha*. Quills very deep brown, almost black. First quill with a narrow white bar on the inner web near insertion; a second and broader transverse mark an inch and a half lower down. The next three primaries with three or four *narrow* transverse grey or grey and brown marks. The remaining primaries with only two transverse marks; the upper very narrow, irregularly formed, and white; the lower about half an inch deep, and of a clouded grey-

brown. Rectrices dark brown, with one very narrow, ill-defined, cloudy, pale band at about four inches from root of the tail; a broader, well-defined, pale band an inch and a half lower down and about three fourths of an inch deep. Rectrices terminated with a narrow pale fringe. Shoulder-edge dark brown. Under carpals and axillaries of the same hue as the lower plumage and profusely spotted with white.

Wing 15 inches; tail 10; tarsus 3; middle toe, without the nail, 1.50; bill from nostril to tip in a straight line 1.

The rich brown colour of the general plumage, the almost circular white spots of the lower plumage, which are sharply defined from the brown ground-colour, and not surrounded with a different shade as in *S. bacha*, the extreme narrowness of the alar and caudal bands, and the shortness of the tarsus and middle toe distinguish this beautiful species from all other known members of the genus. Seen from above it closely resembles adult Javan specimens of *S. bacha*, the narrow banding of the rectrices alone distinguishing it, and the dimensions of the wings and tail being about equal.

Whether it was examples of this species or of *S. rutherfordi* that were sent by Mr. Grote to the Zoological Society in 1865 must remain in doubt until Mr. Gurney has compared this Andaman skin with the specimen at Norwich*.

7. *PICUS ANDAMANENSIS*, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1859, p. 412, "Port Blair."

"S. Andaman: ♀, ♂, iris dark brown; bill dark slate-colour; darkish on maxilla; legs and feet dark olive-green."

Represented by six individuals, four males and two females. All possess three pairs of distinct and prominent pure white spots on the middle rectrices, and a fourth pair, more or less indistinct, towards the apex.

* Mr. Gurney intends to make the necessary comparison when he next visits Norwich. It is impossible to read Mr. Blyth's original description of *S. elgini* (*l. c.*) without recognizing the bird above described. In the mean time I add the references on the disputed point:—*Slater*, P. Z. S. 1865, p. 466; *op. cit.* 1871, p. 495; *List of Vertebr. Z. S. Gard.* 1872, no. 520; *Beavan* (*l. c.*); *Blyth*, *Ibis*, 1868, p. 131.

8. *THRIPONAX HODGII* (Blyth), J. A. S. B. 1860, p. 105, "Port Blair."

S. Andaman.

9. *MEROPS QUINTICOLOR*, Vieillot, N. Dict. xiv. p. 81 (1817), ex Levaillant.

Le Guépier quinticolor, Levaillant, Hist. Nat. Guépriers, p. 51, pl. 15, "Ceylon."

"S. Andaman: January and February, ♂, ♀, iris lake, legs and feet greenish black, bill black."

Appears to be very common. In no respect different from Ceylon, Malabar, and Burmese examples.

Mr. Swinhoe has pointed out (P. Z. S. 1871, p. 348. no. 81) that the Javan form is specifically different from the Indian. One character mentioned by him is not peculiar to the Javan bird, namely the blue tail. The Javan species, however, appears constantly to want the chestnut triangular throat-mark, the yellow throat being sharply separated from the green breast by a well-defined black band. Mr. Swinhoe further remarks that the Indian species must take the title of *Merops erythrocephalus*, Briss. This is Gmelin's title (S. N. i. p. 463. no. 13), founded on *Merops indicus erythrocephalus*, Briss. (Ornith. iv. p. 563), a species which Brisson never saw, and which he described from a drawing made by Poivre of a bird said to have come from the East Indies. It is impossible from Brisson's account to determine the species; and Gmelin's title must therefore be suppressed. Vieillot bestowed the title of *quinticolor* on a species figured and described by Levaillant (*l.c.*), and of which Levaillant states that he had received eight individuals, dried, from Ceylon. The plate and description are, notwithstanding, taken from a Javan bird. At page 55 of the same work Levaillant figured and described a second species, said to have been brought from Java by Laichenot. An immature example of either the Javan or the Indian species is represented; but as Levaillant describes the throat as being covered by "une plaque triangulaire d'un roux jaunâtre," I suspect that the subject of his description was either a Ceylonese or a continental example. On it

Vieillot (*tom. cit.* p. 17) founded his title of *Merops leschenaulti*. Unfortunately no title has ever been given since Levaillant's time to the Indian species; and rather than disturb the received nomenclature Vieillot's title is here retained.

10. EURYSTOMUS ORIENTALIS (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 159 (1766).
 "S. Andaman, December 31."

11. SAUROPATIS CHLORIS (Bodd.), Tabl. Pl. Enl. p. 49 (1783).
 "S. Andaman: ♂, iris reddish brown; ♀, iris bright brown; Ross Isl."

12. ENTOMOBIA SMYRNENSIS (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 181. no. 11 (1776).

"S. Andaman: iris dark brown, legs and feet dark red, bill coral-red."

The six examples obtained by Mr. Ramsay in South Andaman differ from individuals from all other parts of Asia in the intensity of their colouring. Instead of chestnut-brown, the plumage of the head, shoulder-coverts, flanks, and under surface is deep chocolate-brown; and the blue portion of the plumage is much deeper in shade. I have compared these six individuals with forty-three examples from all parts of India, from Ceylon, Formosa, Burma, Malacca, Cambodia, and from Syria; and the differences above mentioned at once distinguish the Andaman race.

13. CALIALCYON COROMANDA (Lath.), Ind. Orn. i. p. 252 (1790).

"S. Andaman: ♂, ♀, iris brown, legs and feet red."

14. ALCEDO BENGALENSIS, Gm. S. N. i. p. 450. n. 20 (1788).

"S. Andaman: ♀, bill above and tips of both mandibles black, lower coral-red; legs and feet vermilion; Ross Isl."

15. COLLOCALIA AFFINIS, Tytler: Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 318.

"Chatham Island: iris brown, feet light brown, bill black."

A numerous series was obtained by Mr. Ramsay on Ross and Chatham Islands during the months of January and February. The species is apparently the same as *C. linchi*, Horsf. and Moore, and which I have very little doubt is the bird

described from Java by Thunberg under the title of *Hirundo fuciphaga*. *Collocalia innominata*, Hume, Str. Feath. i. p. 294, "Port Blair," as described, agrees well with Sikim and Malaccan examples of so-called *C. fuciphaga* (Thunb.), and named *brevirostris* by McClelland (P. Z. S. 1839, p. 155), the type specimen of which was identified as being that of a *Collocalia* by Mr. Moore.

16. *EUDYNAMIS MALAYANA*, Cab. Mus. Hein. iv. p. 52, "Sumatra" (1862-63).

*Eudynamis honorata** (Linn.), Ball, Str. Feath. i. p. 63, no. 38 "Andamans."

"S. Andaman: ♂, iris red, bill greenish white, legs slate-blue; ♀, iris lake. Ross Island, ♂."

* Written *honorata* at page 173, by Mr. Hume (a quaint blunder), with the suggestion that I had written *honorata* through a "clerical oversight." The Calcutta printers, in this instance at least, are not responsible; for they have been made to reproduce, not correct, the palpable misprint in the 'Hand-list,' No. 9068. Surely, if there is not a copy of a Linnæus, or even of a Gmelin or a Latham, in any Calcutta library, there must be a Latin dictionary accessible. For the reason why Linnæus entitled the species *Cuculus honoratus*, cf. Walden, Ibis, 1869, p. 327; in addition to which I may quote Gmelin, i. p. 413. no. 7, "*Cuculus honoratus*. *Habitat in Malabar, reptilibus victitans, hinc forte incolis sacratus*," which is only a repetition of Latham's remarks, *Sacred Cuckoo, C. honoratus*, L. (Syn. i. p. 526), "Inhabits Malabar, where the natives hold it sacred. It feeds on reptiles, which, perhaps, may be such as are the most noisome; if so, this seeming superstition may have arisen from a more reasonable foundation than many others of the like sort." This is an indifferent rendering of Montbeillard's observations on the "*Cuil*" (Hist. Nat. Ois. vi. p. 376), "Il est en vénération sur la côte de Malabar, sans doute parce qu'il se nourrit d'insectes nuisibles. La superstition en général est toujours une erreur, mais les superstitions particulières ont quelquefois un fondement raisonnable." We have here an interesting illustration of the *crescendo* growth of a fallacy. Brisson simply stated that the Koel was held in veneration by the natives of Malabar, a story Linnæus perpetuated by the title he bestowed. Montbeillard not only repeated the statement, but added as a reason, that it was because the Koel destroyed noisome insects. Latham improved on the insects and raised them to the rank of reptiles—a view Gmelin adopted; while Stephens, under *Cuculus honoratus*, Linn. (Gen. Zool. ix. pt. 1, p. 104), as a climax, credited the bird with killing both noxious reptiles and insects.

The two males in full black plumage. The female peculiarly coloured and marked, and different from all peninsular Indian and Ceylon individuals I have had opportunities of examining. They agree well with Naga-Hills, Thayetmoo, and Malaccan examples, which I assume to be identical with Sumatran.

17. *CUCULUS MICROPTERUS*, Gould, P. Z. S. 1837, p. 137, "Himalayas."

"S. Andaman: ♂, December 31; ♀, January 9; not sexed, January 24, iris yellow, legs and feet yellow ochre, bill dark brown above, yellow below; ♂, January 29, iris yellowish brown, legs and feet yellow, bill dark brown, yellow at base."

These four examples belong to one species. Two ♂ and one not sexed are, above deep bluish slate-colour; chin, throat, and upper breast pale ash, with tawny brown fringe to some of the feathers; the remainder of lower surface broadly barred in all four alike. The fourth example (♀) differs by having the upper plumage of a rich brown, with traces of plumbeous on the uropygium only, by the head being ashy brown, by the skin and throat only being ashy, much tinged with tawny rufous, and by the rectrices having the characteristic dark brown terminal band. That the first three are not in completely full plumage is shown by several of the secondaries being brown, more or less tipped, fringed, and indented with pure white and with pale ferruginous, and by the tawny fringes to the breast-feathers. The female (as sexed) also exhibits signs of immaturity, many of the secondaries and of the nuchal feathers being banded or otherwise marked with pale ferruginous and tawny. Provisionally I refer these Andaman individuals to *C. micropterus*, Gould; for a far more comprehensive examination and comparison of the Cuckoos of the Indian region than I have had opportunities of making would be requisite to determine the species with any degree of certainty. It has been suggested to me by my friend Mr. Blanford that the brown plumage of the example (sexed as a female) I have

just described, is a phase of the young male plumage, and the ultimate adult dress of the female; and there is much evidence in favour of this view.

	Long. alæ.	Caudæ.
♂	7·00	6·50
♂	7·00	6·50
?	7·00	6·50
♀	7·37	6·37

18. CENTROCOCYX ANDAMANENSIS. (Plate XI.)

Centropus andamanensis, Tytler : Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 321.

“S. Andaman : iris red; bill, legs, and feet black.”

19. BRODERIPUS ANDAMANENSIS (Tytler) : Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 326. no. 52, “Andamans.”

The series sent by Mr. Ramsay is so complete that I have thought it best to give the results in the following Table. All the examples, with the exception of the one not sexed, were killed in the month of January; and all are from the S. Andaman.

	Alæ.	Caudæ.	Tarsi.	Rostr.	
a, ♂	5·25	4	1	0·81	Perfect plumage; quills jet-black; no alar spot; depth of yellow crown 0·91, of black 0·75; “iris red; bill pinkish red; legs and feet plumbeous.”
b, ♂	5·25	4·25	1	0·81	Perfect plumage; quills as above, but with some of the secondaries slightly tipped with yellow; no alar spot; depth of crown 0·91, of black 0·41.
c, ♂	5·12	4	1	0·81	Perfect plumage; wing as in last; no alar spot; proportions of yellow and black on head as in last.
d, ♂	5·25	4·12	1	0·81	Perfect plumage; tertiaries slightly tipped with yellow, thus forming an alar spot; secondaries as above; yellow crown 1, black 0·25. In these four examples the middle pair of rectrices are black narrowly tipped with yellow.

	Alæ.	Caudæ.	Tarsi.	Rostr.	
<i>e</i> , ♂	5.25	4	1	0.76	Jan. 25; Mantle yellowish olive-green; one tertiary slightly tipped with yellow; secondaries not yellow-tipped, but washed with olive; middle rectrices at base washed with olive-yellow; quills and rectrices more brown than black; crown and nape as in <i>d</i> .
<i>f</i> , ♂	4.88	4	1	0.76	Young; above olive-yellow; beneath yellow and white; feathers brown-centred; chin and throat turning from white to yellow; under tail-coverts pure yellow; quills and rectrices pale brown tinged with olive-yellow; all the tertiaries edged with albescent yellow; no coronal ring. Jan. 18.
<i>g</i> , ♂	4.88	4	1	0.75	Younger; Jan. 10; chin and throat pure white, otherwise like <i>f</i> .
<i>h</i> , ♀	5.25	4	1	0.75	Full golden plumage; does not differ from <i>d</i> .
<i>i</i> , ♀	5	4.25	1	0.75	Jan. 25; like <i>e</i> , one or two tertiaries being tipped; "iris red."
<i>j</i> , ♀	5.12	4.25	1	0.75	Jan. 27; exactly like <i>i</i> .
<i>k</i> , ♀	5	4	1	0.75	Not sexed; Dec. 27; young, like <i>f</i> , but with indications of the black coronal ring appearing behind the eyes.

The Andaman black-naped Oriole is readily distinguishable by its almost totally black primaries and secondaries, from *B. indicus*, *B. coronatus*, *B. chinensis*, and *B. celebensis*. It is also smaller than any of these species. Its affinities are with *B. acrorhynchus*, *B. frontalis*, and *B. formosus*, which, however, greatly exceed it in size.

20. IRENA PUELLA (Lath.), Ind. Orn. i. p. 171, "India" (1790).

"S. Andaman."

Four males and as many females were obtained, and they perfectly agree with Malabar and Cambodian examples.

21. BRACHYPODIUS FUSCOFLAVESCENS, Hume, Str. Feath. i. p. 297, "Andamans" (1873).

Brachypodius melanocephalus (Gm.), apud Ball, J. A. S. B. 1872, p. 284, nec Gm.

One example was obtained. It appears to be a distinct species, having for its adult dress the immature plumage of *B. melanocephalus*.

22. *OTOCOMPSA JOCOSA* (Linn.), S. N. i. 138, no. 24, "China" (1766).

"S. Andaman: ♂."

Barely distinguishable from Bengal and Burmese examples. The Chinese bird is stated by Mr. Swinhoe (*Ibis*, 1861, p. 39; P. Z. S. 1863, p. 277) to be identical with those from Calcutta.

23. *KITTACINCLA ALBIVENTRIS*, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1858, p. 269, "Port Blair." (Plate XII. fig. 1.)

"S. Andaman: iris brown; legs and feet skin-colour; bill black."

24. *COPSYCHUS SAULARIS* (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 165, "Asia" (1766).

"S. Andaman: ♂, iris brown; legs, feet, and bill black. Ross Island, ♂, ♀."

An adult and an immature male from S. Andaman have the two outer pairs of rectrices pure white; the third pair white, with a black inner margin; the fourth pair white, with both outer and inner margins black. Another S. Andaman male has the fourth pair almost entirely black. A male from Ross Island has the first and second pair pure white; the third white, with a black margin to inner web; the fourth, like remaining pairs, jet-black. The under shoulder-coverts have a tendency to dark centres. A female from Ross Island has the rectrices marked as in the first S. Andaman male.

25. *ARUNDINAX AËDON* (Pallas), Reise Russ. Reichs, iii. p. 695. no. 11, "Dauria" (1776).

Arundinax olivaceus, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1845, p. 595.

"S. Andaman: Jan. 3; Feb. 2, ♀, maxilla dark brown, mandible whitish brown. Ross Island: Jan. 7, ♂, iris dark olive-brown, legs light slate-colour."

Sexes alike.

26. *BUDYTES VIRIDIS* (Gm.), S. N. i. p. 962 (1788).

"S. Andaman: Dec. 27 and Jan. 16; iris brown; feet dark brown; maxilla dark brown; mandible, at base light horn-colour, dark at tip."

27. *ALSEONAX LATIROSTRIS* (Raffles), Tr. L. S. xiii. p. 312, "Sumatra" (1821), *descr. princ.*; Jerd. Birds of India, i. p. 459. no. 297; Blanford, J. A. S. B. 1869, p. 173. no. 297, "Chanda."

Muscicapa poonensis, Sykes, P. Z. S. 1832, p. 85. no. 42, "Dukhun."

Muscicapa latirostris, Swains. (*mot. propr.*) Nat. Libr. *Muscicapidae*, p. 253, "India" (1838).

Muscicapa grisola, Linn., var. β , Pallas, Zoogr. Rosso-As. i. p. 461, "Dauria."

Muscicapa cinereo-alba, Temm. & Schl. Faun. Jap. *Aves*, p. 42, pl. xv. "Japan" (1842); Schrenck, Amur-Lande, i. p. 379. no. 106; Radde, Ost-Sibirien, ii. p. 273. no. 147.

Muscicapa pondiceriana, Licht. ex Gm.: Bp. Consp. i. p. 318, nec Gm.*; nec v. Middendorf, Sibir. Reise, ii. pt. ii. p. 188. no. 106, "Uds 'kój' Os 'tróg and Schantár islands," = *M. sibirica*, Gm. tom. cit. p. 936.

Hemichelidon latirostris (Raffles), Horsf. & Moore, Cat. Mus. E. I. C. i. p. 137, no. 177.

Butalis latirostris (Raffles), Swinhoe, P. Z. S. 1871, p. 379. no. 325.

"S. Andaman: Dec. 27, ♂, Jan. 16, Feb. 5; iris dark brown; legs and feet brown; maxilla brown; base of mandible yellow."

Not to be distinguished from Malaccan, Malabar, Lake Baikal, Japan (IIakodadi, May 5), and China (October) individuals.

28. *HYPOTHYMIS TYTLERI* (Beavan), 1867, p. 324. no. 45, "Andamans;" Ball, Str. Feath. i. p. 68. no. 58.

"S. Andaman: ♂, iris brown; maxilla dark brown; man-

* *Muscicapa pondiceriana*, Gm. S. N. i. p. 939. no. 45, was founded on Sonnerat's *Gobe-mouches de Pondichéry*, and is a *Tephrodornis*.

dible and legs dull blue : sex ?, bill black ; legs and feet bluish slate ; iris dark brown."

Two examples, both of young birds. Entire head, chin, and throat dark blue. Breast and abdominal region dark ashy, paler on under tail-coverts. Remainder of plumage brown. Identical with Malabar and Burman individuals. Mr. Ball, who has compared adult birds, seems to consider the Andaman form distinct from *H. azurea*.

29. *TCHITREA AFFINIS*, A. Hay, J. A. S. B. 1846, p. 292, "Malacca."

"S. Andaman, Jan. 17 : ♂, iris dark blue ; bill, legs, and feet bluish slate ; interior of mouth yellow."

In black and white plumage.

30. *HIRUNDO GUTTURALIS*, Scopoli, Del. Fl. Faun. Insubr. ii. p. 96. no. 115 (1786).

"S. Andaman, Jan. 27 : bill and legs black."

31. *ARTAMUS LEUCORHYNCHUS* (Linn.), Mantissa Plant. p. 524, "Manilla" (1771) ; Walden, Tr. Zool. Soc. viii. p. 67.

Artamus leucopygialis, Gould, Walden, P. Z. S. 1866, p. 17, "Andamans."

"S. Andaman, Ross Island, ♂ ♀ : iris brown ; legs and feet greenish black ; bill bright slate-blue."

The sexes, as ascertained by Mr. Ramsay, do not differ in either dimensions or colouring.

32. *LANIUS LUCIONENSIS*, Linn. S. N. i. p. 134. no. 10 (1766).

"S. Andaman, ♂, Jan. 12, 29 ; Ross Island, ♂, Dec. 15, Jan. 4."

Four examples, undistinguishable from Philippine individuals.

33. *PERICROCOTUS ANDAMANENSIS*, Tytler : Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 322. no. 41.

"S. Andaman, ♂ ♀ : iris dark brown ; bill and feet black."

Of six examples three are adult males, two adult females, and one a young male in yellow and grey plumage here and there turning to deep orange. They belong to the same group

as *P. speciosus*, but are much smaller in size, their chief if not sole distinguishing character. *P. ardens*, apud nos, ex Sumatra, Malacca, and Borneo, belongs to the same section, but is still smaller and more deeply coloured.

	Long. alæ.	Caudæ.	
<i>P. speciosus</i>	4	4·37	♂ ad. Valley of Nipaul.
" "	4·60	4·50	" Maunbhoom.
<i>P. andamanensis</i>	3·50	3·87	" S. Andaman.
" "	3·60	3·75	" "
" "	3·50	3·60	" "
" "	3·56	3·75	♂ juv. "
" "	3·60	3·75	♀ adult. "
" "	3·50	3·50	" "
<i>P. ardens</i>	3·50	3	♂ adult. Sumatra.
" "	3·10	3·10	" Malacca.
" "	3·18	3·37	" Marup (Borneo).

34. *PERICROCOTUS PEREGRINUS* (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 342. no. 10, ♀, patr. incog. (1766).

"S. Andaman: ♂, bill and feet black; ♀, iris brown."

Not to be distinguished from continental examples.

35. *BUCHANGA ANDAMANENSIS* (Tytlér): Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 323. no. 42.

"S. Andaman, ♂ ♀."

A distinct species.

36. *DISSEMURUS AFFINIS* (Tytlér): Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 323. no. 43.

"S. Andaman: Jan. 12, ♂; 17, ♀; 18, ♀."

The Andaman *Dissemurus* possesses a short but distinct frontal crest, not so much developed as in the Malabar and Ceylon species, but more so than in the almost crestless Malaccan form. It is larger than either the Javan, Malaccan, or Malabar species, but smaller than all others, *D. brachyphorus*, of course excepted.

37. *GAUCALUS MACEI*, Lesson, Tr. p. 349, "Bengal" (1831).

Gaucalus nipalensis, Hodg. Ind. Rev. 1837, p. 327, "Nipaul."

"S. Andaman: iris red; bill and feet black."

Graucalus macei.

	Alæ.	Caudæ.	Tarsi.	Rostr.	
*a, ♂?	7.37	6	1	0.75	Deyra Doon : full plumage ; lores black ; breast plumbeous ; abdomen white, unstriated.
b, ♀?	6.86	6	1	0.75	Valley of Nipaul : lores dark slate ; breast plumbeous ; upper part of abdomen and thigh-coverts barred.
c, ♂?	6.75	5.37	1	0.87	Tongoo : like a.
d, ♀	6.50	5.65	1	0.75	Moulmein : lores slate ; similar to b, but entire abdomen barred.
e, ♂	6.62	5.50	1	0.86	S. Andaman : identical with a.
f, ♂	6.62	5.50	1	0.86	† S. Andaman : identical with a.
g, ♀	6.62	5.50	1	0.80	S. Andaman : lores barely indicated ; throat, breast, and thigh-coverts faintly striated ; abdomen white.
h, ?	6.37	5.60	1	0.86	S. Andaman : either a young male or female ; lores, chin, throat, breast, and thigh-coverts faintly striated ; abdomen white.

Graucalus layardi.

	Alæ.	Caudæ.	Tarsi.	Rostr.	
i, ♂	6.37	5.75	1	0.87	Maunbhoom : similar to a, but the abdomen and thigh-coverts striated.
j, ♂?	6.60	5.50	1	0.87	Maunbhoom : lores intensely black ; identical with i.
k, ?	6.30	5.25	1	0.75	Maunbhoom : lores dark slate ; chin, throat, breast, abdomen, and thigh-coverts boldly marked with dark bars.
l, ?	6.12	5.60	1	0.75	Candeish : similar to k, but the bars not so decided.
m, ?	6	4.75	0.87	0.75	Coorg : similar to k.
n, ?	5.67	4.50	0.87	0.75	Ceylon : similar to k.
o, ♂?	6.66	5.50	1	0.75	Southern India : identical with i.
p, ♂?	6	5	0.87		Coorg : identical with i.

The dimensions of the four Andaman individuals in the collection are less than those of *G. macei* from Northern India, about equal with those of the same species from Burma,

* Where the sex is not determined by the collector it is noted with doubt.

† This skin is marked by the collector as being that of a female ; if correct, adult males and females do not differ.

and greater than in so-called *G. layardi* of Central and Southern India and Ceylon. Of the specific distinction of the last-named species I am not yet quite satisfied, the question mainly turning upon whether the adult male (and female?) always has the upper part of the abdominal region barred instead of pure white.

38. *GRAUCALUS DOBSONI*, Ball, J. A. S. B. 1872, p. 281. no. 23, "Andamans."

"S. Andaman : ♀, iris lake ; bill and feet black."

An excellent species ; perfectly distinct from *G. concretus*, Hartl., and *G. striatus* (Bodd). The example, sent as a female, has the entire under plumage barred across. A second individual, not sexed, has the chin, throat, and upper breast uniform plumbeous. Seen from below it recalls the beautiful *G. lineatus* (Swains.) = *G. swainsoni*, Gould ; but the dark bands are not as decided and well defined, nor so intensely black as in the Australian species. In all other characters it entirely differs.

39. ? *ARACHNECHTHRA FLAMMAXILLARIS* (Blyth), J. A. S. B. 1845, p. 557.

Arachnechthra frenata, Ball, Str. Feath. i. p. 65 (*nec* S. Müller).

"S. Andaman, Jan. 3, ♀ ; 18, ♀."

Two examples of a female *Arachnechthra* are in Mr. Ramsay's collection, but unfortunately no males. Provisionally I refer them to the well-known Burman species, as Mr. Ball's description (*l. c.*) of the male agrees best with that Sunbird. That gentleman states that in all the male specimens "there are more or less distinct traces of a maroon pectoral band," which character is at once decisive against their belonging to *A. frenata*. With Tenasserim examples of *A. flammaxillaris* ♀ these Andaman individuals fairly agree.

40. *CORVUS LEVAILLANTII*, Lesson, Tr. p. 328, "Bengale," (1831) ; Pucheran, Rev. Mag. Zool. 1853, p. 547.

Corvus culminatus, Sykes, P. Z. S. 1832, p. 96, "Dukhun."

"S. Andaman, Jan. 1, ♀."

The only example, a female in full plumage, sent by Mr.

Ramsay does not differ in colouring from the Indian bird ; but the dimensions of the wings and tail are less, while those of the bill and tarsus are about equal. Wing 10·37 ; tail 7 ; tarsus 2·25 ; bill from forehead, in a straight line, 2·36.

41. *ACRIDOTHERES TRISTIS* (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 166. no. 3 (1766).

“ Ross Island.”

Introduced by Colonel Tytler (Ibis, 1867, p. 329).

42. *STURNIA ANDAMANENSIS*. (Plate XII. fig. 2.)

Temenuchus andamanensis, Tytler : Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 329. no. 67.

“ S. Andaman : ♀, iris white ; bill and legs gamboge ; base of mandible bluish slate.”

43. *EULABES ANDAMANENSIS*, Tytler : Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 331. no. 71, “ Andamans.”

Eulabes intermedia (A. Hay), apud Ball, Str. Feath. i. p. 77. no. 89.

“ S. Andaman, January : ♂ ♀, iris dark brown ; lobes, legs, and feet orange ; bill vermilion, yellow at tip. A young bird, not sexed : lobes, legs, and feet yellow.”

No difference to be observed between the sexes. A series of eight examples confirms my opinion that Colonel Tytler was justified in separating the Andaman *Eulabes* from the Indian *E. intermedia*. Whether it can only rank as a “ geographical race of the same species,” must depend on the sense in which that elastic phrase is applied.

44. ? *OSMOTRERON CHLOROPTERA* (Blyth), J. A. S. B. 1845, p. 852, “ Nicobars.”

“ S. Andamans : iris red ; bill at base greenish slate, at point greenish white.”

A single example, unfortunately not sexed, of a large species of *Osmotreron*. I provisionally identify it with the Nicobar form, which I have never seen. Crown beautiful French grey, very pale on the forehead, and shading darker on the occiput. Under tail-coverts pale creamy white, broadly centred with light green. Wing nearly seven inches.

45. CARPOPHAGA JENEA (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 283, (1776), ex Briss.

Palumbus moluccensis, Briss. Orn. i. p. 148, "*ex Moluccis insulis*."

Columba sylvatica, Tickell, J. A. S. B. 1833, p. 581, "Jungles of Borabhúm and Dholbhúm."

"S. Andaman: ♀, iris brown; eyelids with a red margin; feet and legs pink."

Seven examples, all killed in the month of January, and identical with Indian. I have elsewhere shown that Indian, Ceylon, Burmese, Javan, Bornean, and even Philippine individuals cannot well be specifically separated. Young birds in this species appear to have the under tail-coverts of a lighter shade than adults.

	Alæ.	Caudæ.	
<i>a</i> , ?	9	6.50	Sides of head, breast, and abdomen pale bluish grey intensely suffused with vinous; ventral region and thigh-coverts pure grey; on the nape a triangular chocolate-brown mark; throat pure white.
<i>b</i> , ♂	9.25	6.65	Similar to <i>a</i> , but without the nuchal mark: chin, throat, and forehead pure white.
<i>c</i> , ♀	9	6.37	Similar to <i>b</i> , but the vinous shade on breast not so intense; total length in the flesh 15.50.
<i>d</i> , ♀	9.25	6.25	Identical with <i>c</i> ; length in the flesh 15.50.
<i>e</i> , ♀	9	6.25	Identical with <i>c</i> and <i>d</i> .
<i>f</i> , ?	8.50	5.67	Grey plumage without a tinge of vinous, ashy rather than bluish grey; under tail-coverts light chestnut; green plumage brilliant. A young bird?
<i>g</i> , ?	9	6.50	Similar to <i>f</i> .

46. ? MACROPYGIA RUFIPENNIS, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1846, p. 371, "Southern Nicobar;" Ball, *op. cit.* 1872, p. 287. no. 47, "Andamans."

"S. Andaman: ♂, bill, legs, and feet purplish pink: December and January."

The Nicobar and Andaman birds have yet to be compared. Von Pelzeln (Voy. Novara, Vög. p. 109) describes the iris in the Nicobar *Macropygia* as being white surrounded by cherry-red, the bill chestnut-brown, the feet dark violet-red, and the claws dark brown. From Mr. Blyth's original description (*l. c.*) it is to be inferred that in the Nicobar bird

the feathers of the under surface are not transversely striated, in fact that it is a representative form of *M. phasianella*. But the Andaman *Macropygia*, which is represented in the collection by seven examples, differs from *M. phasianella* in having the head bright rufous, and not cinereous shaded with violet—in the nape and interscapulary region being clothed with rufous feathers very finely marked with black, more evident in some individuals than in others, and not pure coppery green or violet as in the Australian species—and in the feathers of the pectoral and abdominal region being traversed by distinct dark brown narrow lines, whereas in *M. phasianella*, as in *M. tenuirostris*, *M. emiliana*, and others of that group, the plumage of the under surface is uniform, without a trace of striation, at least in the adult males. It is therefore just possible that the Andaman is a species distinct from the Nicobar. *M. leptogrammica*, ex Java, is nothing but a miniature form of *M. tusalia*; the wing measures 6.75 inches as against 8, and the tail 7.75 as against 9.25. *M. amboinensis* (L.) vera has the lower plumage of *M. leptogrammica* and the upper of *M. phasianella*.

47. IANTHÆNAS PALUMBoidES. (Plate XIII.)

Carpophaga palumboides, Hume, Str. Feath. i. p. 302, "Port Mouat" (1873).

"S. Andaman: ♂, iris reddish yellow; feet pink, claws white; bill pinkish lilac at base and white at tip; length 16 inches."

Classed by Mr. Hume as a *Carpophaga*, but clearly belonging to the *Columbidæ*. It has twelve rectrices.

48. CHALCOPHAPS INDICUS (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 284. no. 29 (1766).

"S. Andaman: ♂, bill reddish brown; legs and feet purplish pink."

One male in perfect (?), one in imperfect plumage, and one female in the collection; shot in January. The male, although apparently in full plumage, wants the broad bluish grey stripe descending from the crown to the interscapulars, which is

present in Ceylon, Malabar, Malaccan, Javan, and Philippine individuals. Is this peculiar to the nuptial dress?

+ 49. *CHARADRIUS FULVUS*, Gm. S. N. i. p. 687 (1788).

"S. Andaman: ♂; Dec. 18; not sexed, Dec. 21."

In winter plumage.

50. *ÆGIALITIS CURONICA* (Gm.), S. N. i. p. 692. no. 29 (1788), ex Beseke, Schr. der Gesellschaft naturf. Freunde z. Berlin, vii. p. 464. no. 49 (1787).

"S. Andaman: Jan. 7, ♂; Feb. 4: iris brown; legs and feet orange; bill brown."

Two individuals in non-breeding plumage. I have never met with examples of this European bird from Southern Asia in full breeding-dress. Burgess (P. Z. S. 1855, p. 80) states that he believes the egg he described belonged to *Charadrius minor*, and that, if so, that bird breeds in the Deccan in the month of April. But *C. minor*, ap. Burgess (*l. c.*), is probably the *Æ. minuta* (Pallas), ap. Jerd. no. 850. On the other hand I have never seen adult Indian specimens of the small Indian Ring-Plover (*Æ. minuta*, ap. Jerd.), except in full or nearly full summer plumage. The correct title of this smaller species cannot be determined until it is ascertained whether *Æ. curonica* ever occurs in Luzon in full breeding-plumage. If it does not, *Æ. dubia* (Scop.) will be the oldest title for the smaller species. If it does, and the smaller species is also found to occur in Luzon in breeding-plumage, then Sonnerat's bird must remain for ever undeterminable. The title of *curonicus* was given by Gmelin to a bird which Beseke (*l. c.*) described from a drawing, but on which he bestowed no title.

51. *ÆGIALITIS GEOFFROYI* (Wagler), Syst. Av. *Charadrius*, no. 19, "Pondicherry, Java" (1827).

"S. Andaman, Jan. 20, 24: ♀, iris dark brown; legs and feet green; bill dark brown."

In winter plumage. Two examples, one sexed as being a female, with the whole under surface unsullied white. A third (♀, as sexed) with a broad ashy-brown pectoral band.

+52. *ÆGIALITIS MONGOLA* (Pallas), Reise Russ. Reich. iii. p. 700. no. 29 (1776).

"S. Andaman: Jan. 7, ♀; 24, ♂ ♀; 27, ♀; iris (in both sexes) dark brown; legs and feet ashy green; bill dark brown."

In winter plumage.

+53. *STREPSILAS INTERPRES* (Linn.).

"S. Andaman, Feb. 1, ♂."

54. *GALLICREX CINEREUS* (Gm.), S. N. i. p. 702, no. 20 (1788), ex Lath.

Gallinula cristata, Lath. Ind. Orn. ii. p. 773. no. 23 (1790), ex Lath.

Crested Gallinule, Lath. Syn. v. p. 267. no. 22, "China?"

"S. Andaman, Dec. 15: ♀, iris brown; legs and bill olive-green."

+55. *NUMENIUS PHEOPUS* (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 243 (1766).

"S. Andaman, Jan. 3."

56. *ACTITIS HYPOLEUCA* (Linn.), S. N. i. p. 250 (1766).

"Ross Island, Dec. 15, ♀; S. Andaman, Jan. 3, ♀, 29, ♀."

57. *ACTITIS GLAREOLA* (Gm.), S. N. p. 677. no. 21 (1788).

"S. Andaman: Dec. 31, ♂; Jan. 22, ♂; legs and feet yellowish green; bill dark brown."

Winter plumage.

58. *TRINGA ALBESCENS*, Temm. Pl. Col. 41. fig. 2, "l'Océanic" (1823).

"S. Andaman, Jan. 24: iris dark brown; bill black; legs and feet greenish black."

In winter plumage. Mr. Harting inclines to the opinion that *T. ruficollis*, Pallas (Reise, iii. p. 700. no. 31, 1776), is this species in full breeding-plumage, relying on the expression "subtus collum totum ad pectus usque intense ferrugineum." *T. salina*, Pallas (Zoogr. ii. p. 199. no. 309), Mr. Harting identifies with *T. subminuta*, v. Middendorf. Of that species Pallas says, "Jugulum ferrugineo-nebulosum album, punctis fuscis, in masculo crebrioribus; reliqua subtus alba." Mr. Harting's hypothesis can only be maintained on the assumption that Pallas described examples of two distinct species in the full

belief that they belonged to one and the same. For Pallas (Zoogr. l. c.) identifies *T. salina* with the *T. ruficollis* of his earlier work, although, curiously enough, he attributes the title of *ruficollis* to Latham, the English author having only borrowed that title and the description from Pallas. It may be here observed that the Japanese specimen mentioned by Mr. Sharpe (Dresser's Birds of Eur. *T. minuta*, p. 5) as being *T. albescens* is nothing but *T. minuta*.

59. GALLINAGO STENURA (Kuhl), Bp. Annali di Storia Naturale, Bologna, iii. fasc. 14, "Sunda Islands" (1830); Isis, 1833, p. 1077.

"S. Andaman: ♂, Dec. 19, 23, 27; ♂, Feb. 5: iris bright brown; legs and feet greyish horn-colour; bill, basal half light horn, remainder brown: ♀, Feb. 6; iris brown; legs and feet pale green; bill light horn, remainder brown. Port Mouat, ♀, Feb. 5: iris bright brown; legs and feet greyish green."

60. DEMIEGRETTA SACRA (Gm.), S. N. i. p. 640 (1788), ex Lath. Synop. v. p. 92, "Otaheite."

Demiegretta concolor, Blyth, J. A. S. B. 1846, p. 372, "Arracan, Nicobars."

Herodias andamanensis, Tytler: Beavan, Ibis, 1867, p. 333, "Andamans."

Herodias concolor (Blyth), Ball, Str. Feath. i. p. 87. no. 122.

Demiegretta greyi, G. R. Gray, ap. Hume, op. cit. p. 307.

"Ross Island, Dec. 20, Feb. 4: iris pale yellow; bill brown, mandible tinged with yellowish green; legs bright green, soles yellow."

Moulting from ferruginous brown into uniform ash-colour, a narrow white line extending from the chin down the neck for about one and three quarters of an inch.

It has recently been asserted by Mr. Hume (Str. Feath. i. p. 254) that the *Ardea asha*, Sykes (P. Z. S. 1832, p. 157, "Dukhun"), and the species described by Dr. Jerdon (Birds of India, iii. p. 747) belong to *Ardea gularis*, Bosc (Actes de la Société d'Hist. Nat. de Paris, i. pt. i. p. 4, pl. 2, "Senegal," 1792*),

* Only the first part of this work, edited by Aubin-Louis Millin, and published in "l'an quatrième de la liberté," appeared. It consists, in ad-

the well-known Madagascar and tropical African form, and not to *Ardea sacra*, Gm., = *A. jugularis*, Forst. (Wagler, Syst. Av.). Mr. Hume, in his valuable paper on the ornithology of Sindh (*l. c.*), states that he observed the African species at Muscat, along the Makran coast, at Kurrachee, and on the Bombay coast at Teetul. As Sykes does not mention the characteristic white cheeks of *A. gularis*, nor give the wing and tarsal dimensions, and as I have never seen Deccan individuals, nor Sykes's type, I cannot venture to assert with any confidence which of the two species migrates to the Deccan; and the question must remain open until Deccan examples have been examined. The dimensions given by Dr. Jerdon are nearer those of the African bird; but his description, while sufficient for *A. sacra*, will not apply to *A. gularis*; for he likewise omits all mention of the white cheeks. The species identified by Mr. Blyth on all occasions as *A. asha*, Sykes, seems to have been the African bird. For instance (Cat. Calc. Mus. no. 1642), its range is stated to be the "peninsula of India and Sindh, nec (?) lower Bengal." Later (J.A.S.B. 1855, p. 264) that author identified *A. asha*, Sykes, with *A. gularis*, Bosc, and also doubtfully with *H. pannosa*, Gould. And Mr. Blyth states (*Ibis*, 1865, p. 38) the range to be South India and Ceylon. The Ceylonese bird has long since been identified by von Pelzeln, in his exhaustive article on the general subject (*Novara Exp. Aves*, p. 122), as belonging to *Ardea schistacea*, Hempr. and Ehrenb., = *A. gularis*, Bosc; and Mr. Blanford (*Geol. Zool. Abyssinia*, p. 435. no. 270, 1870) mentions that he had compared an Abyssinian example with Indian specimens in the Calcutta museum, and that there can be no question of their identity.

Mr. Blyth, having some time previously detected the differences which distinguished Arracan examples of the Demi-gret from those he had identified as belonging to *Ardea asha*,

dition to an introductory discourse by the editor, of 129 pages of letter-press, embracing many branches of natural history, and 13 plates. Of birds it contains the description of *A. gularis* by Bosc, and of *Buceros africanus* by Geoffroy, fils, and also a catalogue by MM. Richard and Bernard of birds collected in Cayenne by M. Blond.

Sykes, on receiving similar individuals from the Nicobars, described it under the name of *Demiegretta concolor* (*l. c.*), the chief differences he relied on being the shorter tarsus and the absence or almost entire absence of white about the throat. Subsequently Colonel Tytler named the Andaman bird *Herodias andamanensis* (*l. c.*); and this, Mr. Blyth (*Ibis*, 1868, p. 133) identified with his *D. concolor*, a species, he added, which he had never seen in white plumage.

The two examples obtained by Mr. Ramsay agree perfectly with Malaccan and Celebesian individuals, and fall therefore under true *Ardea sacra*, Gm. But according to Von Pelzeln (*l. c.*), *D. concolor* is a good and distinct species, and inhabits the Nicobars as well as *D. jugularis* (= *sacra*, Gm.). Of this last the Novara Expedition obtained one Nicobar example, which Von Pelzeln correlates with two from Tahiti and two from Panypet, together with three from the Carolines, one from the East Indies, and one from Java, in the Berlin museum. Of *D. concolor*, the same expedition obtained at the Nicobars, and there only, three individuals (♀) in adult plumage, two in dark plumage, with white throat, and one in snow-white dress. Dr. Finsch (*Orn. Central-Polyn.* p. 206) does not admit the specific distinction of the Nicobar examples, and states that examples from Amboina are nearly as small as those included by Von Pelzeln under *D. concolor*.

	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Middle toe without nail.	Bill from fore- head.	Bill from gape.	
<i>D. sacra</i> . .	10.50	4	2.75	2	3.25	4	Ross Island, Dec. 20: partly developed dorsal train.
" "	9.75	3.50	2.35	1.75	2.89	3.37	Ross Island, Feb. 4: ditto.
" "	10.50	3.88	2.75	2	3	3.66	Malacca, August: uniform ash-colour; throat-streak as above; no dorsal train.
" "	10.50	3.75	2.75	2	3	3.60	Malacca, Sept.: ditto.
" "	10.25	3.50	2.63	1.87	3	3.63	Celebes: ditto.
<i>D. gularis</i> .	11	4	4	2.37	3.95	4.37	♀, Massuah, Aug. 24: full crest and dorsal train; uniform slate-color; chin, cheeks, and throat white.

61. *BUTORIDES JAVANICUS* (Horsf.), Tr. Linn. Soc. xiii. p. 190, "Java" (1820).

"S. Andaman, Feb. 4: ♀, iris yellow; legs and feet dark green; soles of feet yellow."

A single example. Does not differ from Indian individuals.

62. *MARECA GIBBERIFRONS*, S. Müller, Verhand. p. 159, "Celebes" (1839-44); Walden, Tr. Zool. Soc. viii. p. 102.

Querquedula andamanensis, Tytler, Ibis, 1867, p. 333. no. 89, sine descr.

? *Mareca punctata*, Cuv.: Ball, J. A. S. B. 1872, p. 290. no. 62, "Andamans;" Str. Feath. i. p. 88.

Mareca albogularis, Hume, Str. Feath. i. p. 303, "Andamans" (1873).

"S. Andaman, ♂ ♀, February; iris brown; bill plumbeous; legs and feet greenish: ♀, January.

The collection contains three males and two females. One, a female, is absolutely identical with an authentic Celebesian example. While equal in dimensions with Timor examples, they all somewhat exceed in size Celebesian individuals, which, as is well known, are generally smaller than the races that inhabit other areas.

XXXVII.—Notices of recently published and forthcoming Ornithological Works. By the EDITOR.

SEVERAL important works bearing on Ornithology have been published within the last few months, concerning which a few words may not be unacceptable to our readers.

'Lahore to Yarkand'* contains an account by Mr. Hume of the birds collected during Mr. Forsyth's celebrated expedition into Central Asia. Specimens of about 158 species were obtained altogether; but only 59 of these were collected actually in Yarkand. They appear to have been well worked

* Lahore to Yarkand. Incidents of the Route and Natural History of the Countries traversed by the Expedition of 1870, under T. D. Forsyth, Esq., C.B. By G. Henderson, M.D., and A. O. Hume, C.B. London: Reeve & Co., 1873. 1 vol. 8vo.



2
3

1873. Jan.

M & N. Hanhart imp

1. KITIACINCLA ALBIVENTRIS.
2. STURNIA ANDAMANENSIS

31



